

A BILL

To promote the foreign policy of the United States by amending the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948 (Public Law 402, Eightieth Congress).

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United
2 States of America in Congress assembled,

3 That section 2 of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act
4 of 1948, as amended, is amended by adding before the final period a semicolon
5 and the following new subparagraph (d) to paragraph (2):

6 "(d) the development of projects for diffusion of knowledge which
7 are of interest and value to the United States and other countries."

8 SEC. 2. (a) Section 201(a) of such Act is amended by striking out the
9 second sentence and substituting therefor the following:

10 "The Secretary may provide for orientation courses and other appropriate
11 services and materials in the case of persons coming to the United States
12 from other countries and for persons going to other countries from the United
13 States under the provisions of this Act or under other similar exchange pro-
14 grams when the Secretary determines that such orientation courses and services
15 and materials will enable persons under such other programs to assist in
16 accomplishing the objectives of this Act."

17 (b) Section 201 of such Act is further amended by adding a new paragraph
18 as follows:

19 "(c) The Secretary may provide for the attendance of nationals of a
20 cooperating country at selected institutions or places of study in any cooper-
21 ating country for the purpose of study of subjects pertaining to the United
22 States or for participation by nationals of such countries in meetings
23 sponsored by individuals or public or private organizations of the United
24 States, when he determines that urgent foreign relations objectives would be

1 served thereby, provided, that this paragraph shall not authorize the Secre-
2 tary to provide for the attendance of any foreign national at any institution
3 or meeting in any country controlled by international Communism."

4 SEC. 3. Section 602(a) of such Act is amended (1) by inserting before
5 the period at the end thereof a colon and the following: "Provided, That no
6 office under a State university, land-grant college, or other similar educa-
7 tional institution shall be deemed to be a compensated Federal or State
8 office for the purposes of this subsection."; and (2) by adding the following
9 new sentence: "After July 1, 1957, the Commission on Information shall con-
10 sist of seven members, not more than four of whom shall be from any one
11 political party; and the appointments of the two additional members initially
12 shall be for terms ending in January 1960 but thereafter shall be for three-
13 year terms."

14 SEC. 4. Section 603 of such Act is amended by striking out the words
15 "a semiannual" and substituting the words "an annual" therefor.

16 SEC. 5. Title VI of such Act is amended by adding at the end thereof a
17 new section as follows:

18 "USE OF BINATIONAL COMMISSIONS

19 "SEC. 604. The Secretary is authorized, wherever practicable, to utilize
20 in the administration of exchange programs under this Act the services of any
21 binational commission or foundation established under authority of any other
22 law providing for similar exchange programs."

23 SEC. 6. Section 801(6) of such Act is amended (1) by striking out the
24 period at the end of the first sentence and inserting in lieu thereof a semi-
25 colon, and by adding the following: "and from time to time to hold meetings
26 of representatives of United States cultural and educational institutions and
27 other organizations interested in programs under this Act for the purpose of

1 making reports on, and obtaining comments and suggestions with respect to, such
2 programs. Such persons will not be considered as persons 'employed or assigned
3 to duties by the Government' within the meaning of the Act.; and (2) by
4 striking from the last sentence the words "and not to exceed \$10 per diem in
5 lieu of subsistence and other expenses" and substituting therefor the fol-
6 lowing: "and per diem in lieu of subsistence and other expenses at the rate
7 prescribed by or established pursuant to section 5 of the Administrative
8 Expense Act of 1946, as amended (5 U.S.C. 73b-2),".

9 SEC. 7. Section 802 of such Act is amended:

10 (1) by inserting "contracts of insurance, guaranty, and indemnity,
11 and" after the first "including" in paragraph (2); and

12 (2) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (3), by striking out
13 the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting in lieu thereof a
14 semicolon, and by adding after paragraph (4) the following new
15 paragraphs:

16 "(5) to pay emergency medical expenses and expenses of travel
17 incurred by reason of illness for alien employees while assigned
18 temporarily for duty outside the countries in which they reside or
19 for participants in activities authorized by this Act and to pay
20 for accompanying medical attendants in such cases; and

21 "(6) to pay the travel expenses, including a per diem allowance
22 in lieu of subsistence, of alien employees and their dependents
23 when such employees are authorized to travel in connection with
24 appointment, change of duty, or separation."

25 SEC. 8. The first sentence of section 902 is amended by inserting after
26 the words "other government" the words "or any international organization of
27 which the United States is a member."

1 SEC. 9. Section 1008 of such Act is amended by inserting before the
2 period at the end thereof a comma and the following: "except that the report
3 concerning activities under the educational exchange programs authorized by
4 this Act shall be submitted annually on or before the thirty-first day of
5 December of each year to apply to activities conducted during the previous
6 fiscal year."

7 SEC. 10. The United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of
8 1948 is further amended by adding the following new sections at the end there-
9 of:

"PAYMENT OF CERTAIN CLAIMS

10 "SEC. 1012. For the purpose of promoting and maintaining friendly rela-
11 tions abroad by the prompt settlement of meritorious claims arising in a
12 foreign country, the Secretary of State and the Director of the United States
13 Information Agency, and such other officers as they may designate for such
14 purposes, and under such regulations as they may prescribe, are hereby
15 authorized to consider, ascertain, adjust, determine, and make payments, where
16 accepted by the claimants in full satisfaction and in final settlement, of
17 claims, excluding claims of subrogees, on account of damage to or loss or
18 destruction of public or private property both real and personal or on account
19 of personal injury or death of inhabitants of a foreign country, including
20 claims respecting personal property bailed to the Government and claims for
21 damages incident to the use and occupancy of real property, whether under a
22 lease, express or implied, or otherwise, whenever caused by any agency,
23 instrumentality, officer, agent or employee in or of the Department or Agency,
24 incident to the performance of any official functions for the United States,
25 when the amount of such claim does not exceed \$5,000: Provided, That in
26 cases where the amount exceeds \$2,500 but does not exceed \$5,000, payment
27 shall be made only after approval by the Secretary or Director.

"The Secretary or Director may certify to Congress any meritorious claim or portion thereof which is in excess of \$5,000 as may be deemed to be just and reasonable for payment out of appropriations that may be made by Congress therefor.

"No claim shall be considered unless presented within one year after the claim arose.

"Every claim settled under the authority of this Act shall be final and conclusive for all purposes, notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE OFFICERS
"UNITED STATES INFORMATION OFFICERS

1. "SEC. 1013. (a) There is hereby established a category of officers of the (United States Information Agency) to be known as (United States Information Officers) who shall, except as provided in this section, be subject to the provisions of the Foreign Service Act of 1946, as heretofore or hereafter amended (hereinafter referred to as the Foreign Service Act), and any other provisions of law which are or may become applicable to Foreign Service Officers; Provided, That no person shall be eligible for appointment as a (United States Information Officer) unless he meets standards and has passed examinations substantially equivalent to those required for appointment as a Foreign Service Officer under the Foreign Service Act.

2. "(b) Such authority as is or may become available by statute to the Secretary of State with respect to Foreign Service Officers, shall be available on the same basis to the Director of (the United States Information Agency) (hereinafter referred to as the Director) with respect to (United States Information Officers), except as otherwise provided in this section, and except for the following sections of the Foreign Service Act or portions thereof which shall not apply to (United States Information Officers): 201

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(Director General of the Foreign Service), 211(a) (Board of the Foreign Service), 401(1) (Chiefs of Mission), 411 (Chiefs of Mission), the first three sentences of section 412 (classes of career ambassador and career minister), 421-422 (officers temporarily in charge), 431 (Chiefs of Mission), the last sentence of Section 443 (designation of hardship posts), 501-502 (principal diplomatic representatives), the second and third sentences of section 517 (lateral entry), 518-519 (career ambassadors, career ministers, and chiefs of mission), 571(b) (eligibility of Foreign Service Officers to serve as Director General), and section 631 (retirement of career ambassadors and career ministers).

3, "(c) There are hereby established in the (United States Information Agency) (1) a board composed of ⁵four senior officers of the Agency designated by the Director, (and one officer of the Department of State designated by the Secretary of State, one of whom shall be designated Chairman by the Director, and (2) a board of examiners designated by the Director, which boards shall carry out with respect to ¹⁰⁰²(foreign service personnel) of the Agency the functions vested by the Foreign Service Act in the Board of the Foreign Service and the Board of Examiners for the Foreign Service, respectively.

"(d) The Secretary of State may, upon request of the Director, recommend to the President that United States Information Officers be commissioned as diplomatic or consular officers, or both, in accordance with section 512 of the Foreign Service Act. The Secretary of State may, upon request of the Director, assign United States Information Officers, commissioned as diplomatic or consular officers, to serve ~~under~~ such commissions in accordance with sections 512 and 514 of the Foreign Service Act.

4, "(e) The Director shall establish and administer an independent retirement and disability system for United States Information Officers ¹⁰⁰²in accordance

1 with the provisions of the Foreign Service Act.

2 5. "(f) Regulations prescribed by the Director with respect to appointments,
3 promotions, assignments, separations, and the general administration of the
4 United States Information Officer personnel system, shall at all times be
5 compatible with, and to the extent practicable, similar to those applicable
6 to the Foreign Service Officer Corps.

7 6. "(g) Nothing in this legislation shall be construed to authorize the
8 Director to establish a Foreign Service Institute as provided in Title VII
9 of the Foreign Service Act.

10 "(h) Nothing in this legislation shall be construed to make permanent the
11 separation of the overseas information program from the Department of State.

12 "UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE

13 "SEC. 1014. The Agency established by section 1 of Reorganization Plan
14 Numbered 8 of 1953 shall hereafter be known as the 'United States Information
15 Service' and all references in such reorganization plan or in any statute,
16 regulations, agreement, or other legal instrument to the 'United States Infor-
17 mation Agency' shall be construed to refer to the 'United States Information
18 Service'. Nothing in this section shall be construed to alter or affect in
19 any way the functions, authorities, or responsibilities of the Agency."